

REMARKS

At the outset, applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the indication of the allowable status of claims 2-11 and 17-21. The Examiner further indicated that claim 16 would be allowable if written in independent form. Applicant has rewritten claim 16 and the remaining claims upon which it is dependent as new claim 22. As such, it is respectfully asserted that new claim 22 is likewise allowable and, as a consequence, applicant has cancelled claims 12-16.

Although applicant firmly believes that the Locati reference does not remotely suggest the present invention and that Locati does not teach movement of the cleaning assembly upwardly and downwardly of a hull by its own volition but instead merely responds to pressures applied to the cleaning means by pulling a hull of a floating vessel past such cleaning means, in order to expedite prosecution, applicant has complied with the Examiner's rejection.

In light of the fact that all of the claims now presented have been found allowable, it is respectfully asserted that the present application is, in fact, in condition for allowance and such disposition is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: September 13, 2004

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